



United States  
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Agriculture

National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service



# Farms and Land in Farms

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# USDA





## Update Alert

Page 9 was corrected to contain 2002 land in farm data rather than 2003.  
Page 10 was corrected to contain 2001 number of farms rather than 2002.

### Farms and Land in Farms Decline Slightly in 2003

The number of farms in the United States in 2003 is estimated at 2.13 million, 0.4 percent fewer than in 2002. The decline in farms occurred in all sales categories except the \$250,000-\$499,999 class which remained unchanged. Total land in farms, at 938.8 million acres, decreased 1,550,000 acres from 2002. The average size farm during 2003 was 441 acres, an increase of one acre from the previous year. The decline in the number of farms and land in farms continues to reflect consolidation in farming operations and competition for agricultural land for other uses.

The U.S. number of agricultural operations in the economic sales class \$1,000-\$9,999 declined 0.2 percent to 1,199,270 in 2003. Farms with sales of \$10,000-\$99,999 decreased 0.7% from 2002 to 600,530. The number of farms with \$100,000-\$249,999 in sales was 167,230, a decline of 0.9 percent. In the \$250,000-\$499,999 sales class, the number of farms was unchanged from the previous year. The number of agricultural operations with \$500,000 or more of sales declined 0.4% from 2002. Generally favorable weather, stronger commodity prices, higher value of commodities produced, farm consolidation, and competition for other uses of farmland contributed to the shifting of farms among the sales categories.

The number of farms in the North Central Region decreased by 5,300 (0.7 percent) and the number of farms in the West Region declined by 1,800 (0.6 percent). The South Region lost 1,300 farms (0.1 percent). The number of farms declined 100 (0.1 percent) in the Northeast Region.

The number of farms in 2003 declined in 20 States, remained unchanged in 28 States, and increased in two States. The largest decline in farms occurred in California which lost 1,200 places followed by Missouri with 1,000. Other notable declines were: Minnesota and Nebraska, 900; Indiana, 800; North Carolina, 700; Iowa, 600; and Tennessee, Washington, and Wisconsin each losing 500 farms. For the two states with increased farm numbers, Mississippi added 600 and Montana 100 places.

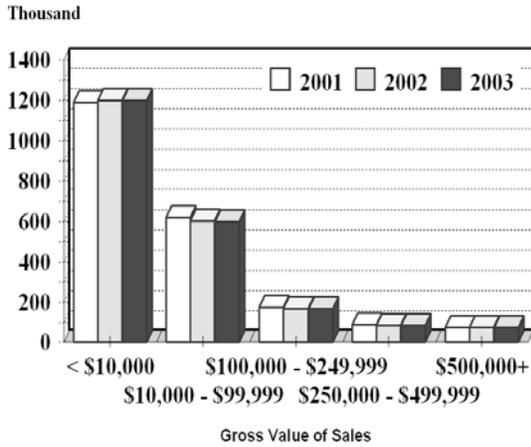
Texas, with 130.5 million acres of farm and ranch land, leads the nation. The farm and ranch acreage for Texas in 2003 was unchanged from 2002. States with the largest decreases in land in farms were: California, down 500,000 acres; Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, New Mexico, Tennessee, and Wisconsin each lost 100,000 acres. Other states showing declines in agricultural acreage were: Virginia, 70,000 acres; Indiana and Wyoming, 60,000 acres; Louisiana and Washington, 50,000 acres; Maryland, 20,000 acres; and Delaware, New York, Ohio, and Vermont each with 10,000 fewer acres. After several years of drought conditions, renewed public grazing allotments contributed to an increase of 300,000 acres in Montana's ranch land.

### Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Size Farm: United States, 1992-2003 <sup>1</sup>

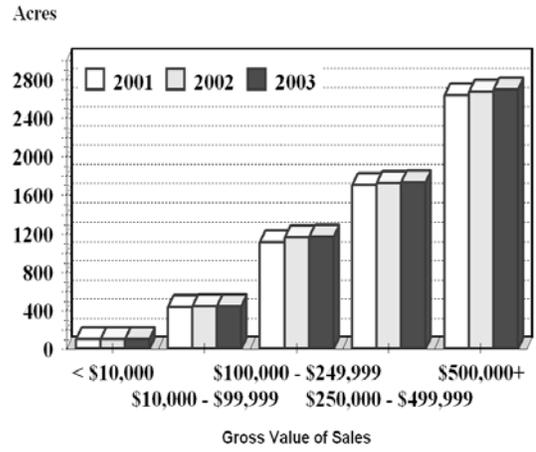
Year	Number of Farms <i>Number</i>	Land in Farms <i>1,000 Acres</i>	Average Farm Size <i>Acres</i>
1993	2,201,590	968,845	440
1994	2,197,690	965,935	440
1995	2,196,400	962,515	438
1996	2,190,500	958,675	438
1997	2,190,510	956,010	436
1998	2,192,330	952,080	434
1999	2,187,280	948,460	434
2000	2,166,780	945,080	436
2001	2,148,630	942,070	438
2002	2,135,360	940,300	440
2003	2,126,860	938,750	441

<sup>1</sup> A farm is any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year.

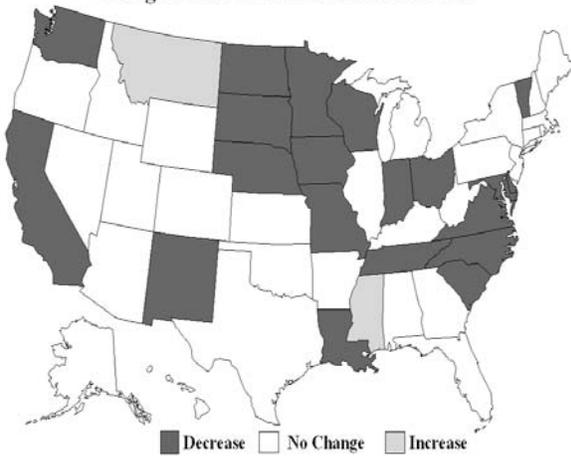
### U. S. Number of Farms by Sales Class, 2001-2003



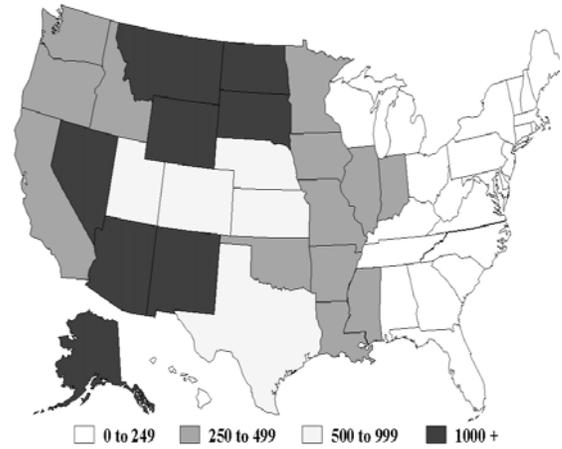
### U.S. Average Size Farm by Sales Class, 2001-2003



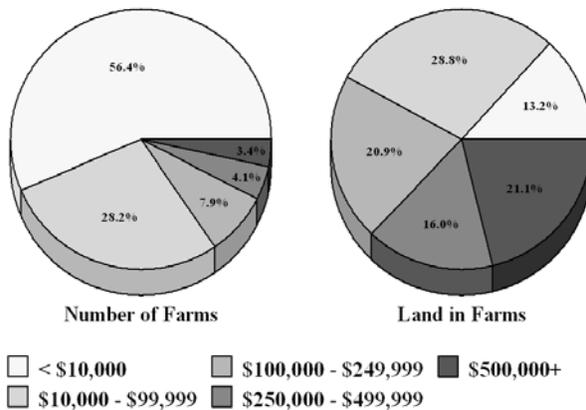
### Change in Number of Farms Since 2002



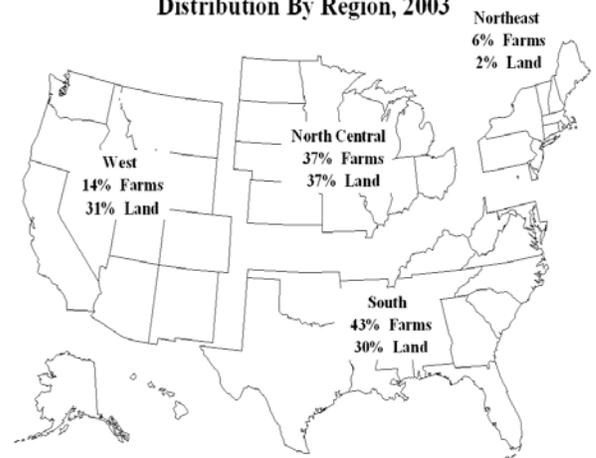
### Average Farm Size in Acres, 2003



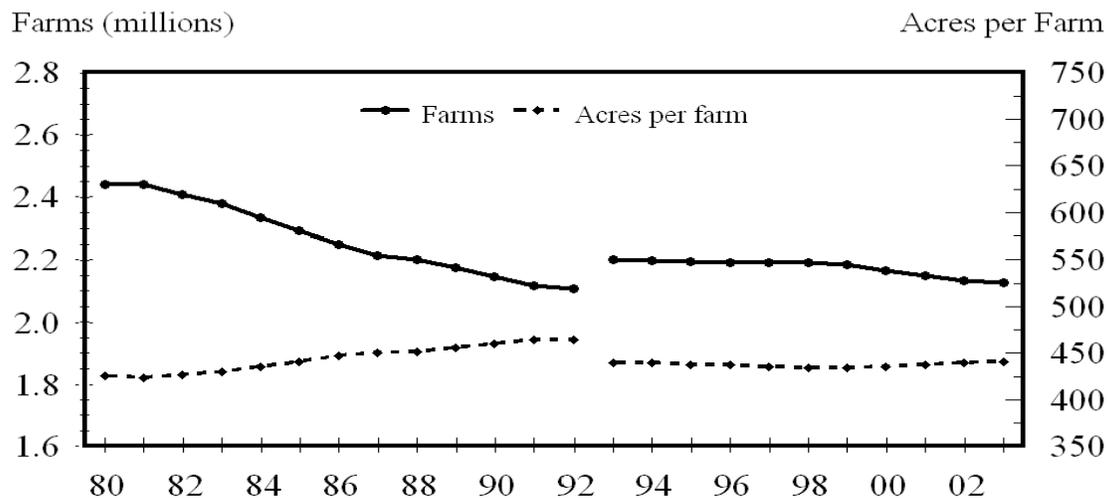
### U.S. Number of Farms and Land in Farms Percentages by Sales Class, 2003



### Number of Farms and Land in Farms Distribution By Region, 2003



## Number of Farms and Average Farm Size United States, 1980 - 2003<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1/</sup> See the Survey Procedures, page 14, for changes in the farm definition which occurred between 1992 and 1993.

### Percent of Farms and Land in Farms for Places With Less Than \$1,000 of Reported Sales, but with Sufficient Crops and Livestock to Normally Have Sales of at least \$1,000, United States, 1999-2003

Year	Percent of Total	
	Farms	Land
1999	15.5	2.0
2000	15.0	2.0
2001	16.0	2.0
2002	18.0	3.0
2003	19.0	3.0

**Number of Farms: By State and United States, 2001-2003**

State	2001	2002	2003
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
AL	46,000	45,000	45,000
AK	600	610	610
AZ <sup>1</sup>	10,400	10,300	10,300
AR	48,000	47,500	47,500
CA	81,000	79,700	78,500
CO	30,900	31,400	31,400
CT	4,200	4,200	4,200
DE	2,500	2,400	2,300
FL	44,000	44,000	44,000
GA	49,200	49,300	49,300
HI	5,500	5,500	5,500
ID	24,500	25,000	25,000
IL	75,000	73,000	73,000
IN	62,100	60,300	59,500
IA	92,000	90,600	90,000
KS	64,500	64,500	64,500
KY	88,000	87,000	87,000
LA	28,000	27,500	27,200
ME	7,150	7,200	7,200
MD	12,300	12,200	12,100
MA	6,100	6,100	6,100
MI	53,000	53,300	53,300
MN	81,000	80,900	80,000
MS	42,000	42,200	42,800
MO	108,000	107,000	106,000
MT	27,800	27,900	28,000
NE	50,000	49,400	48,500
NV	3,050	3,000	3,000
NH	3,300	3,400	3,400
NJ	9,800	9,900	9,900
NM <sup>1</sup>	17,800	17,700	17,500
NY	37,500	37,000	37,000
NC	55,000	54,200	53,500
ND	30,600	30,500	30,300
OH	78,000	77,800	77,600
OK	84,000	83,500	83,500
OR	40,000	40,000	40,000
PA	58,500	58,200	58,200
RI	830	850	850
SC	24,400	24,500	24,400
SD	32,000	31,800	31,600
TN	88,000	87,500	87,000
TX	228,600	229,000	229,000
UT	15,500	15,300	15,300
VT	6,600	6,600	6,500
VA	47,900	47,600	47,500
WA	36,500	36,000	35,500
WV	20,800	20,800	20,800
WI	77,000	77,000	76,500
WY	9,200	9,200	9,200
US	2,148,630	2,135,360	2,126,860

<sup>1</sup> Includes some accounting for individual farms on reservation land.

**Land in Farms: By State and United States, 2001-2003**

State	2001 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	2002 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	2003 <i>1,000 Acres</i>
AL	8,900	8,900	8,900
AK	900	900	900
AZ	26,700	26,600	26,500
AR	14,600	14,500	14,400
CA	27,800	27,600	27,100
CO	31,400	31,100	31,000
CT	360	360	360
DE	550	540	530
FL	10,300	10,300	10,200
GA	10,850	10,800	10,800
HI	1,350	1,300	1,300
ID	11,800	11,800	11,800
IL	27,500	27,500	27,500
IN	15,100	15,100	15,040
IA	32,000	31,800	31,700
KS	47,300	47,300	47,200
KY	13,800	13,800	13,800
LA	7,910	7,900	7,850
ME	1,350	1,370	1,370
MD	2,100	2,080	2,060
MA	520	520	520
MI	10,120	10,090	10,090
MN	27,800	27,800	27,700
MS	11,130	11,110	11,110
MO	30,200	30,200	30,200
MT	59,600	59,800	60,100
NE	46,000	45,900	45,900
NV	6,300	6,300	6,300
NH	440	450	450
NJ	830	820	820
NM	44,800	44,800	44,700
NY	7,660	7,660	7,650
NC	9,120	9,100	9,100
ND	39,400	39,400	39,400
OH	14,680	14,610	14,600
OK	33,800	33,700	33,700
OR	17,200	17,200	17,200
PA	7,710	7,700	7,700
RI	60	60	60
SC	4,880	4,850	4,850
SD	43,900	43,800	43,800
TN	11,800	11,700	11,600
TX	130,700	130,500	130,500
UT	11,600	11,600	11,600
VT	1,270	1,260	1,250
VA	8,680	8,670	8,600
WA	15,400	15,350	15,300
WV	3,600	3,600	3,600
WI	15,800	15,700	15,600
WY	34,500	34,500	34,440
US	942,070	940,300	938,750

**Number of Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,  
Region, and United States, 2003**

State and Region	Economic Sales Class					Total
	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$249,999	\$250,000-\$499,999	\$500,000 & Over	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
<b>Northeast</b>						
CT <sup>2</sup>	2,850					4,200
ME <sup>2</sup>	5,100					7,200
MA <sup>2</sup>	3,850					6,100
NH <sup>2</sup>	2,500					3,400
NJ <sup>2</sup>	6,900					9,900
NY	19,500	11,200	3,700	1,500	1,100	37,000
PA	34,400	14,500	6,200	2,000	1,100	58,200
RI <sup>2</sup>	490					850
VT <sup>2</sup>	4,050					6,500
Oth Sts <sup>1</sup>		7,810	2,390	1,180	1,030	
Total	79,640	33,510	12,290	4,680	3,230	133,350
<b>North Central</b>						
IL	27,000	24,600	11,000	7,300	3,100	73,000
IN	31,000	18,000	5,600	2,900	2,000	59,500
IA	27,800	33,800	15,200	8,200	5,000	90,000
KS	28,200	24,800	6,700	2,800	2,000	64,500
MI	31,700	15,100	3,200	1,800	1,500	53,300
MN	35,200	25,500	10,000	5,400	3,900	80,000
MO	59,600	36,100	6,100	2,500	1,700	106,000
NE	13,100	19,000	9,100	4,300	3,000	48,500
ND	8,800	12,000	5,500	2,600	1,400	30,300
OH	44,900	23,400	5,600	2,400	1,300	77,600
SD	8,800	12,700	6,200	2,600	1,300	31,600
WI	37,000	21,500	12,100	3,900	2,000	76,500
Total	353,100	266,500	96,300	46,700	28,200	790,800
<b>South</b>						
AL	31,000	9,300	1,300	1,400	2,000	45,000
AR	26,500	11,700	3,200	3,200	2,900	47,500
DE <sup>2</sup>	950					2,300
FL	27,600	11,000	2,300	1,200	1,900	44,000
GA	32,200	10,800	2,000	1,800	2,500	49,300
KY	56,500	25,000	3,200	1,300	1,000	87,000
LA	17,100	6,400	1,600	1,000	1,100	27,200
MD <sup>2</sup>	7,700					12,100
MS	30,300	8,100	1,500	1,000	1,900	42,800
NC	33,500	11,500	2,500	2,500	3,500	53,500
OK	52,000	24,900	3,800	1,600	1,200	83,500
SC	18,400	4,300	600	400	700	24,400
TN	65,500	17,500	1,950	1,200	850	87,000
TX	157,000	56,000	8,000	4,500	3,500	229,000
VA	31,200	12,400	1,750	1,100	1,050	47,500
WV <sup>2</sup>	17,200					20,800
Other States <sup>3</sup>		5,820	1,200	1,060	1,270	
Total	604,650	214,720	34,900	23,260	25,370	902,900
<b>West</b>						
AK <sup>2</sup>	330					610
AZ <sup>2,5</sup>	7,300					10,300
CA	33,100	25,500	7,400	4,200	8,300	78,500
CO	17,700	9,700	2,100	900	1,000	31,400
HI <sup>2</sup>	3,100					5,500
ID	14,900	6,000	1,900	900	1,300	25,000
MT	11,900	10,600	3,700	1,200	600	28,000
NV <sup>2</sup>	1,650					3,000
NM <sup>5</sup>	12,000	3,950	750	350	450	17,500
OR	26,800	8,900	2,000	1,200	1,100	40,000
UT	9,700	4,100	750	400	350	15,300
WA	19,700	8,900	3,000	1,800	2,100	35,500
WY <sup>2</sup>	3,700					9,200
Other States <sup>4</sup>		8,150	2,140	960	1,280	
Total	161,880	85,800	23,740	11,910	16,480	299,810
<b>US</b>	<b>1,199,270</b>	<b>600,530</b>	<b>167,230</b>	<b>86,550</b>	<b>73,280</b>	<b>2,126,860</b>

<sup>1</sup> CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates not available for all sales classes.

<sup>3</sup> DE, MD, and WV.

<sup>4</sup> AK, AZ, HI, NV, and WY.

<sup>5</sup> Includes some accounting for individual farms on reservation land.

**Land in Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,  
Region, and United States, 2003**

State and Region	Economic Sales Class					Total <i>1,000 Acres</i>
	\$1,000- \$9,999 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	\$10,000- \$99,999 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	\$100,000- \$249,999 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	\$250,000- \$499,999 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	\$500,000 & Over <i>1,000 Acres</i>	
<b>Northeast</b>						
CT <sup>2</sup>	140					360
ME <sup>2</sup>	540					1,370
MA <sup>2</sup>	220					520
NH <sup>2</sup>	240					450
NJ <sup>2</sup>	220					820
NY	1,780	2,250	1,400	870	1,350	7,650
PA	2,300	2,200	1,700	800	700	7,700
RI <sup>2</sup>	30					60
VT <sup>2</sup>	400					1,250
Oth Sts <sup>1</sup>		1,105	665	465	805	
Total	5,870	5,555	3,765	2,135	2,855	20,180
<b>North Central</b>						
IL	1,800	5,580	7,080	7,000	6,040	27,500
IN	1,620	3,310	3,260	3,210	3,640	15,040
IA	1,750	7,500	8,450	7,600	6,400	31,700
KS	3,400	15,500	12,300	8,000	8,000	47,200
MI	2,000	2,600	1,650	1,590	2,250	10,090
MN	3,070	6,850	5,920	5,410	6,450	27,700
MO	7,200	10,700	5,200	3,900	3,200	30,200
NE	1,600	10,700	12,600	10,000	11,000	45,900
ND	3,000	11,200	11,500	7,900	5,800	39,400
OH	2,800	4,500	3,100	2,450	1,750	14,600
SD	3,500	11,400	13,600	8,600	6,700	43,800
WI	3,000	4,100	3,400	2,600	2,500	15,600
Total	34,740	93,940	88,060	68,260	63,730	348,730
<b>South</b>						
AL	3,300	3,000	800	700	1,100	8,900
AR	2,850	3,500	1,600	2,250	4,200	14,400
DE <sup>2</sup>	50					530
FL	1,650	2,300	1,250	850	4,150	10,200
GA	3,700	2,800	1,100	1,100	2,100	10,800
KY	4,600	5,100	1,600	1,080	1,420	13,800
LA	1,450	2,050	1,400	1,200	1,750	7,850
MD <sup>2</sup>	500					2,060
MS	3,750	2,670	960	930	2,800	11,110
NC	2,300	2,000	1,050	1,250	2,500	9,100
OK	6,000	13,700	6,400	3,800	3,800	33,700
SC	1,950	1,380	450	400	670	4,850
TN	4,700	3,600	950	950	1,400	11,600
TX	21,000	46,500	23,500	16,500	23,000	130,500
VA	2,800	3,100	1,100	720	880	8,600
WV <sup>2</sup>	2,100					3,600
Other States <sup>3</sup>		1,680	540	500	820	
Total	62,700	93,380	42,700	32,230	50,590	281,600
<b>West</b>						
AK <sup>2</sup>	360					900
AZ <sup>2,5</sup>	620					26,500
CA	2,280	6,220	4,160	3,140	11,300	27,100
CO	3,100	10,500	7,000	4,500	5,900	31,000
HI <sup>2</sup>	80					1,300
ID	1,140	3,080	2,370	1,580	3,630	11,800
MT	4,300	17,800	18,800	10,400	8,800	60,100
NV <sup>2</sup>	130					6,300
NM <sup>5</sup>	2,400	12,400	10,100	7,500	12,300	44,700
OR	1,700	4,500	3,700	3,400	3,900	17,200
UT	900	2,450	1,550	4,550	2,150	11,600
WA	1,100	2,700	3,200	2,600	5,700	15,300
WY <sup>2</sup>	3,360					34,440
Other States <sup>4</sup>		17,530	10,740	9,840	26,780	
Total	21,470	77,180	61,620	47,510	80,460	288,240
<b>US</b>	<b>124,780</b>	<b>270,055</b>	<b>196,145</b>	<b>150,135</b>	<b>197,635</b>	<b>938,750</b>

<sup>1</sup> CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates not available for all sales classes.

<sup>3</sup> DE, MD, and WV.

<sup>4</sup> AK, AZ, HI, NV, and WY.

<sup>5</sup> Includes some accounting for individual farms on reservation land.

**Number of Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,  
Region, and United States, 2002**

State and Region	Economic Sales Class					Total
	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$249,999	\$250,000-\$499,999	\$500,000 & Over	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
<b>Northeast</b>						
CT <sup>2</sup>	2,850					4,200
ME <sup>2</sup>	5,100					7,200
MA <sup>2</sup>	3,850					6,100
NH <sup>2</sup>	2,500					3,400
NJ <sup>2</sup>	6,900					9,900
NY	19,300	11,000	3,900	1,600	1,200	37,000
PA	34,400	14,500	6,200	2,000	1,100	58,200
RI <sup>2</sup>	490					850
VT <sup>2</sup>	4,050					6,600
Oth Sts <sup>1</sup>		7,860	2,440	1,180	1,030	
Total	79,440	33,360	12,540	4,780	3,330	133,450
<b>North Central</b>						
IL	27,300	25,000	11,000	6,600	3,100	73,000
IN	31,600	18,000	5,700	3,000	2,000	60,300
IA	28,100	34,200	15,200	8,100	5,000	90,600
KS	28,000	24,700	6,900	2,900	2,000	64,500
MI	31,700	15,100	3,200	1,800	1,500	53,300
MN	35,400	26,200	10,000	5,400	3,900	80,900
MO	59,800	36,800	6,200	2,500	1,700	107,000
NE	13,100	19,700	9,200	4,400	3,000	49,400
ND	8,600	12,600	5,600	2,500	1,200	30,500
OH	45,000	23,500	5,600	2,400	1,300	77,800
SD	8,800	12,800	6,300	2,600	1,300	31,800
WI	37,000	22,000	12,200	3,800	2,000	77,000
Total	354,400	270,600	97,100	46,000	28,000	796,100
<b>South</b>						
AL	31,000	9,300	1,300	1,400	2,000	45,000
AR	26,600	11,500	3,200	3,200	3,000	47,500
DE <sup>2</sup>	1,020					2,400
FL	27,600	11,000	2,300	1,200	1,900	44,000
GA	32,100	10,800	2,000	1,900	2,500	49,300
KY	56,500	25,000	3,200	1,300	1,000	87,000
LA	17,300	6,500	1,600	1,000	1,100	27,500
MD <sup>2</sup>	7,500					12,200
MS	29,800	7,900	1,500	1,100	1,900	42,200
NC	33,700	11,500	2,700	2,700	3,600	54,200
OK	52,000	25,000	3,700	1,600	1,200	83,500
SC	18,500	4,300	600	400	700	24,500
TN	66,000	17,500	1,950	1,200	850	87,500
TX	157,000	56,000	8,000	4,500	3,500	229,000
VA	31,200	12,400	1,750	1,150	1,100	47,600
WV <sup>2</sup>	17,200					20,800
Other States <sup>3</sup>		6,050	1,300	1,060	1,270	
Total	605,020	214,750	35,100	23,710	25,620	904,200
<b>West</b>						
AK <sup>2</sup>	330					610
AZ <sup>2,5</sup>	7,300					10,300
CA	34,200	25,300	7,500	4,300	8,400	79,700
CO	17,200	9,900	2,300	950	1,050	31,400
HI <sup>2</sup>	3,100					5,500
ID	14,900	6,100	1,800	900	1,300	25,000
MT	11,800	10,500	3,800	1,200	600	27,900
NV <sup>2</sup>	1,650					3,000
NM <sup>5</sup>	12,100	4,000	800	350	450	17,700
OR	26,800	8,900	2,000	1,200	1,100	40,000
UT	9,700	4,100	750	400	350	15,300
WA	20,200	8,900	3,000	1,800	2,100	36,000
WY <sup>2</sup>	3,700					9,200
Other States <sup>4</sup>		8,160	2,130	960	1,280	
Total	162,980	85,860	24,080	12,060	16,630	301,610
<b>US</b>	<b>1,201,840</b>	<b>604,570</b>	<b>168,820</b>	<b>86,550</b>	<b>73,580</b>	<b>2,135,360</b>

<sup>1</sup> CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates not available for all sales classes.

<sup>3</sup> DE, MD, and WV.

<sup>4</sup> AK, AZ, HI, NV, and WY.

<sup>5</sup> Includes some accounting for individual farms on reservation land.

**Land in Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,  
Region, and United States, 2002**

State and Region	Economic Sales Class					Total <i>1,000 Acres</i>
	\$1,000- \$9,999 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	\$10,000- \$99,999 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	\$100,000- \$249,999 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	\$250,000- \$499,999 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	\$500,000 & Over <i>1,000 Acres</i>	
<b>Northeast</b>						
CT <sup>2</sup>	140					360
ME <sup>2</sup>	540					1,370
MA <sup>2</sup>	220					520
NH <sup>2</sup>	240					450
NJ <sup>2</sup>	220					820
NY	1,770	2,200	1,420	920	1,350	7,660
PA	2,300	2,200	1,700	800	700	7,700
RI <sup>2</sup>	30					60
VT <sup>2</sup>	400					1,260
Oth Sts <sup>1</sup>		1,105	675	465	805	
Total	5,860	5,505	3,795	2,185	2,855	20,200
<b>North Central</b>						
IL	1,700	5,590	7,180	6,990	6,040	27,500
IN	1,650	3,340	3,260	3,210	3,640	15,100
IA	1,750	7,670	8,470	7,550	6,360	31,800
KS	3,500	15,400	12,300	8,000	8,100	47,300
MI	1,990	2,660	1,630	1,590	2,220	10,090
MN	3,290	6,830	5,900	5,380	6,400	27,800
MO	7,200	10,900	5,100	3,800	3,200	30,200
NE	1,600	10,900	12,600	9,900	10,900	45,900
ND	3,000	11,800	11,600	7,500	5,500	39,400
OH	2,850	4,560	3,080	2,410	1,710	14,610
SD	3,400	11,500	13,600	8,600	6,700	43,800
WI	3,000	4,100	3,500	2,600	2,500	15,700
Total	34,930	95,250	88,220	67,530	63,270	349,200
<b>South</b>						
AL	3,300	3,000	800	700	1,100	8,900
AR	2,950	3,500	1,600	2,250	4,200	14,500
DE <sup>2</sup>	65					540
FL	1,700	2,350	1,250	850	4,150	10,300
GA	3,600	2,930	1,170	1,080	2,020	10,800
KY	4,600	5,100	1,600	1,080	1,420	13,800
LA	1,500	2,050	1,400	1,200	1,750	7,900
MD <sup>2</sup>	480					2,080
MS	3,690	2,700	960	940	2,820	11,110
NC	2,250	1,950	1,090	1,310	2,500	9,100
OK	6,300	13,600	6,200	3,800	3,800	33,700
SC	1,960	1,360	450	400	680	4,850
TN	4,800	3,600	950	950	1,400	11,700
TX	22,000	46,000	23,500	16,000	23,000	130,500
VA	2,850	3,060	1,100	770	890	8,670
WV <sup>2</sup>	2,100					3,600
Other States <sup>3</sup>		1,720	570	495	790	
Total	64,145	92,920	42,640	31,825	50,520	282,050
<b>West</b>						
AK <sup>2</sup>	360					900
AZ <sup>2,5</sup>	620					26,600
CA	2,230	6,420	4,250	3,210	11,490	27,600
CO	3,100	10,500	7,100	4,500	5,900	31,100
HI <sup>2</sup>	80					1,300
ID	1,140	3,080	2,370	1,580	3,630	11,800
MT	4,300	17,700	18,600	10,500	8,700	59,800
NV <sup>2</sup>	130					6,300
NM <sup>5</sup>	2,620	12,380	10,090	7,440	12,270	44,800
OR	1,700	4,500	3,700	3,400	3,900	17,200
UT	910	2,510	1,620	4,380	2,180	11,600
WA	1,140	2,780	3,190	2,650	5,590	15,350
WY <sup>2</sup>	3,360					34,500
Other States <sup>4</sup>		17,610	10,730	9,970	26,740	
Total	21,690	77,480	61,650	47,630	80,400	288,850
<b>US</b>	<b>126,625</b>	<b>271,155</b>	<b>196,305</b>	<b>149,170</b>	<b>197,045</b>	<b>940,300</b>

<sup>1</sup> CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates not available for all sales classes.

<sup>3</sup> DE, MD, and WV.

<sup>4</sup> AK, AZ, HI, NV, and WY.

<sup>5</sup> Includes some accounting for individual farms on reservation land.

**Number of Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,  
Region, and United States, 2001**

State and Region	Economic Sales Class					Total
	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$249,999	\$250,000-\$499,999	\$500,000 & Over	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
<b>Northeast</b>						
CT <sup>2</sup>	2,850					4,200
ME <sup>2</sup>	5,000					7,150
MA <sup>2</sup>	3,700					6,100
NH <sup>2</sup>	2,400					3,300
NJ <sup>2</sup>	6,400					9,800
NY	19,800	11,000	4,000	1,600	1,100	37,500
PA	32,300	16,400	6,200	2,100	1,500	58,500
RI <sup>2</sup>	470					830
VT <sup>2</sup>	4,000					6,600
Oth Sts <sup>1</sup>		8,400	2,580	1,170	1,010	
Total	76,920	35,800	12,780	4,870	3,610	133,980
<b>North Central</b>						
IL	27,800	25,700	11,700	6,700	3,100	75,000
IN	31,400	19,500	6,100	3,100	2,000	62,100
IA	26,700	35,600	17,200	7,700	4,800	92,000
KS	26,300	25,900	7,200	3,100	2,000	64,500
MI	30,700	15,500	3,400	1,900	1,500	53,000
MN	33,900	27,100	10,900	5,400	3,700	81,000
MO	60,100	37,500	6,200	2,500	1,700	108,000
NE	13,100	19,800	9,800	4,400	2,900	50,000
ND	8,500	13,000	5,600	2,400	1,100	30,600
OH	44,300	24,200	5,700	2,400	1,400	78,000
SD	8,200	13,600	6,500	2,500	1,200	32,000
WI	36,500	22,300	12,400	3,800	2,000	77,000
Total	347,500	279,700	102,700	45,900	27,400	803,200
<b>South</b>						
AL	32,000	9,300	1,300	1,400	2,000	46,000
AR	27,000	11,800	2,800	3,300	3,100	48,000
DE <sup>2</sup>	1,020					2,500
FL	27,600	11,000	2,300	1,200	1,900	44,000
GA	31,900	10,400	2,300	2,000	2,600	49,200
KY	54,000	28,000	3,600	1,400	1,000	88,000
LA	17,500	6,500	1,800	1,100	1,100	28,000
MD <sup>2</sup>	7,100					12,300
MS	30,000	7,600	1,400	1,100	1,900	42,000
NC	33,300	12,500	2,900	2,700	3,600	55,000
OK	52,300	25,300	3,700	1,600	1,100	84,000
SC	18,400	4,200	700	400	700	24,400
TN	66,000	18,000	1,950	1,200	850	88,000
TX	156,000	56,200	8,200	4,500	3,700	228,600
VA	31,300	12,500	1,800	1,200	1,100	47,900
WV <sup>2</sup>	17,200					20,800
Other States <sup>3</sup>		6,370	1,440	1,170	1,300	
Total	602,620	219,670	36,190	24,270	25,950	908,700
<b>West</b>						
AK <sup>2</sup>	330					600
AZ <sup>2,5</sup>	7,300					10,400
CA	35,800	25,000	7,600	4,300	8,300	81,000
CO	16,400	10,000	2,300	1,100	1,100	30,900
HI <sup>2</sup>	3,100					5,500
ID	13,900	6,300	2,000	1,000	1,300	24,500
MT	11,700	10,500	3,800	1,200	600	27,800
NV <sup>2</sup>	1,650					3,050
NM <sup>5</sup>	12,100	4,100	800	350	450	17,800
OR	26,500	9,000	2,100	1,200	1,200	40,000
UT	9,500	4,400	850	400	350	15,500
WA	21,000	8,700	3,000	1,800	2,000	36,500
WY <sup>2</sup>	3,600					9,200
Other States <sup>4</sup>		8,320	2,170	1,010	1,270	
Total	162,880	86,320	24,620	12,360	16,570	302,750
<b>US</b>	<b>1,189,920</b>	<b>621,490</b>	<b>176,290</b>	<b>87,400</b>	<b>73,530</b>	<b>2,148,630</b>

<sup>1</sup> CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates not available for all sales classes.

<sup>3</sup> DE, MD, and WV.

<sup>4</sup> AK, AZ, HI, NV, and WY.

<sup>5</sup> Includes some accounting for individual farms on reservation land.

**Land in Farms: Economic Sales Class by State,  
Region, and United States, 2001**

State and Region	Economic Sales Class					Total <i>1,000 Acres</i>
	\$1,000- \$9,999 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	\$10,000- \$99,999 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	\$100,000- \$249,999 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	\$250,000- \$499,999 <i>1,000 Acres</i>	\$500,000 & Over <i>1,000 Acres</i>	
<b>Northeast</b>						
CT <sup>2</sup>	140					360
ME <sup>2</sup>	520					1,350
MA <sup>2</sup>	210					520
NH <sup>2</sup>	230					440
NJ <sup>2</sup>	200					830
NY	1,800	2,200	1,430	920	1,310	7,660
PA	2,330	2,370	1,440	790	780	7,710
RI <sup>2</sup>	30					60
VT <sup>2</sup>	390					1,270
Oth Sts <sup>1</sup>		1,165	685	475	785	
Total	5,850	5,735	3,555	2,185	2,875	20,200
<b>North Central</b>						
IL	1,660	5,590	7,100	7,000	6,150	27,500
IN	1,580	3,420	3,300	3,200	3,600	15,100
IA	1,700	8,000	8,600	7,600	6,100	32,000
KS	3,500	15,400	12,100	8,200	8,100	47,300
MI	1,980	2,680	1,700	1,580	2,180	10,120
MN	3,220	7,200	6,200	5,380	5,800	27,800
MO	7,200	11,200	5,000	3,700	3,100	30,200
NE	1,700	11,000	13,000	9,800	10,500	46,000
ND	3,300	12,700	11,900	7,100	4,400	39,400
OH	2,840	4,580	3,080	2,430	1,750	14,680
SD	3,200	12,000	13,700	8,400	6,600	43,900
WI	2,900	4,200	3,600	2,600	2,500	15,800
Total	34,780	97,970	89,280	66,990	60,780	349,800
<b>South</b>						
AL	3,300	2,960	850	670	1,120	8,900
AR	2,900	3,600	1,600	2,300	4,200	14,600
DE <sup>2</sup>	50					550
FL	1,700	2,350	1,250	850	4,150	10,300
GA	3,500	2,880	1,170	1,100	2,200	10,850
KY	4,400	5,200	1,700	1,100	1,400	13,800
LA	1,550	2,000	1,380	1,230	1,750	7,910
MD <sup>2</sup>	450					2,100
MS	3,680	2,700	920	960	2,870	11,130
NC	2,240	1,960	1,090	1,310	2,520	9,120
OK	6,500	13,900	5,900	3,800	3,700	33,800
SC	2,030	1,290	430	420	710	4,880
TN	4,800	3,700	950	950	1,400	11,800
TX	21,500	46,330	23,380	16,280	23,210	130,700
VA	2,800	3,090	1,100	800	890	8,680
WV <sup>2</sup>	2,100					3,600
Other States <sup>3</sup>		1,710	580	510	850	
Total	63,500	93,670	42,300	32,280	50,970	282,720
<b>West</b>						
AK <sup>2</sup>	340					900
AZ <sup>2,5</sup>	540					26,700
CA	2,500	6,600	4,220	3,180	11,300	27,800
CO	3,400	10,300	7,000	4,800	5,900	31,400
HI <sup>2</sup>	100					1,350
ID	1,150	3,150	2,400	1,600	3,500	11,800
MT	4,400	17,600	18,300	10,600	8,700	59,600
NV <sup>2</sup>	140					6,300
NM <sup>5</sup>	3,100	12,200	10,000	7,100	12,400	44,800
OR	1,700	4,500	3,700	3,400	3,900	17,200
UT	930	2,550	1,880	3,680	2,560	11,600
WA	1,340	2,790	3,190	2,780	5,300	15,400
WY <sup>2</sup>	3,320					34,500
Other States <sup>4</sup>		17,830	11,240	10,010	26,230	
Total	22,960	77,520	61,930	47,150	79,790	289,350
<b>US</b>	<b>127,090</b>	<b>274,895</b>	<b>197,065</b>	<b>148,605</b>	<b>194,415</b>	<b>942,070</b>

<sup>1</sup> CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, RI, and VT.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates not available for all sales classes.

<sup>3</sup> DE, MD, and WV.

<sup>4</sup> AK, AZ, HI, NV, and WY.

<sup>5</sup> Includes some accounting for individual farms on reservation land.

**Percent of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Size Farm: By Economic Sales Class, United States, 2001-2003 <sup>1</sup>**

Economic Sales Class	Percent of Total		Average Size Farm (Acres)
	Farms	Land in Farms	
	<i>2001</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2001</i>
\$1,000 - \$2,499	27.1	4.3	70
\$2,500 - \$4,999	14.9	4.2	124
\$5,000 - \$9,999	13.3	5.0	165
\$10,000 - \$19,999	11.7	7.5	281
\$20,000 - \$39,999	8.7	8.4	423
\$40,000 - \$99,999	8.6	13.3	678
\$100,000 - \$249,999	8.2	20.9	1,118
\$250,000 - \$499,999	4.1	15.8	1,690
\$500,000 - \$999,999	2.2	11.4	2,272
\$1,000,000 +	1.2	9.2	3,361
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>438</b>
	<i>2002</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2002</i>
\$1,000 - \$2,499	27.3	4.5	73
\$2,500 - \$4,999	15.0	4.1	120
\$5,000 - \$9,999	13.7	4.9	157
\$10,000 - \$24,999	11.5	7.6	291
\$25,000 - \$49,999	8.7	9.7	491
\$50,000 - \$99,999	8.4	11.5	603
\$100,000 - \$249,999	7.9	20.9	1,165
\$250,000 - \$499,999	4.1	15.8	1,697
\$500,000 - \$999,999	2.2	11.5	2,302
\$1,000,000 +	1.2	9.5	3,486
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>440</b>
	<i>2003</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2003</i>
\$1,000 - \$2,499	27.0	4.3	70
\$2,500 - \$4,999	15.2	4.0	116
\$5,000 - \$9,999	14.0	4.9	154
\$10,000 - \$24,999	11.4	7.5	290
\$25,000 - \$49,999	8.6	9.8	503
\$50,000 - \$99,999	8.3	11.5	612
\$100,000 - \$249,999	7.9	20.9	1,168
\$250,000 - \$499,999	4.1	16.0	1,722
\$500,000 - \$999,999	2.1	10.5	2,207
\$1,000,000 +	1.4	10.6	3,342
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>441</b>

<sup>1</sup> Economic Sales Classes changed for 2001 to standard government groupings.

**Average Size Farm: By State and United States, 2001-2003**

State	2001	2002	2003
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
AL	193	198	198
AK	1,500	1,475	1,475
AZ	2,567	2,583	2,573
AR	304	305	303
CA	343	346	345
CO	1,016	990	987
CT	86	86	86
DE	220	225	230
FL	234	234	232
GA	221	219	219
HI	245	236	236
ID	482	472	472
IL	367	377	377
IN	243	250	253
IA	348	351	352
KS	733	733	732
KY	157	159	159
LA	283	287	289
ME	189	190	190
MD	171	170	170
MA	85	85	85
MI	191	189	189
MN	343	344	346
MS	265	263	260
MO	280	282	285
MT	2,144	2,143	2,146
NE	920	929	946
NV	2,066	2,100	2,100
NH	133	132	132
NJ	85	83	83
NM	2,517	2,531	2,554
NY	204	207	207
NC	166	168	170
ND	1,288	1,292	1,300
OH	188	188	188
OK	402	404	404
OR	430	430	430
PA	132	132	132
RI	72	71	71
SC	200	198	199
SD	1,372	1,377	1,386
TN	134	134	133
TX	572	570	570
UT	748	758	758
VT	192	191	192
VA	181	182	181
WA	422	426	431
WV	173	173	173
WI	205	204	204
WY	3,750	3,750	3,743
US	438	440	441

## Reliability of Data in this Report

**Survey Procedures:** Data are collected by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) during the June Agricultural Survey using sampling procedures to ensure every farm and ranch has a chance of being selected. NASS uses a multiple frame approach to measuring farms and land in farms. An area sampling frame is built for every state that divides all land into segments. A sample of segments, designed for the state, is selected and enumerated in early June. Highly trained interviewers locate each sampled segment and identify every farm and ranch operating land in the segment and the number of acres in each operation. These data are used to compute estimates of farm numbers and land in farms. Additionally, all farms found in the segments are checked against a list of farms and ranches maintained by NASS to determine if the farm is on the list. Operations not on the list provide a measure of incompleteness of the list. These data are combined with data collected from a sample selected from the list to calculate estimates of farms and land in farms.

**Estimation Procedures:** Data are checked for reasonableness and consistency and summarized for each state. State estimates are aggregated to regional and national totals for Headquarters review. State Statistical Offices perform a thorough review of their survey results and historical data relationships and recommend official estimates. Headquarters establishes regional and national estimates and ensures that state estimates are in balance with the Regional and National numbers.

**Revision Policy:** Estimates are subject to revision the following year and following review of the five-year Census of Agriculture. The basis for revision must be supported by additional data which directly affects the level of the estimate. Historical publication statistical bulletin, NASS-SB991 (04), with revisions for 1998-2002 was published February 27, 2004.

**Reliability:** Two types of errors, sampling and nonsampling, are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey. Both types affect the "precision" of the estimates.

Sampling error occurs because a complete census is not taken. The sampling error measures the variation in estimates from the average of all possible samples. An estimate of 100 with a sampling error of 1 would mean that chances are 19 out of 20 that the estimates from all possible samples averaged together would be between 98 and 102; which is the survey estimate, plus or minus two times the sampling error. The sampling error expressed as a percent of the estimate is called the relative sampling error. The relative sampling error for the U.S. number of farms and land in farms is just above 1.5 percent. The sampling error for total number of farms and total land in farms is less than the sampling error for each component of the total, such as number of farms by economic sales class. Relative sampling errors by economic sales class generally ranged from 1.9 to 3.0 percent for number of farms and 2.9 to 13.2 percent for land in farms at the U.S. level.

Nonsampling errors can occur in complete censuses as well as sample surveys. They are caused by the inability to obtain correct information from each person surveyed, differences in interpreting questions or definitions, and mistakes in coding or processing the data. Special efforts are taken at each step of the survey to minimize nonsampling errors.

## Terms and Definitions

A **farm** is “any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year”. Government payments are included in sales. Ranches, institutional farms, experimental and research farms, and Indian Reservations are included as farms. Places with the entire acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), or other government programs are counted as farms.

The definition of a farm was first established in 1850 and has changed nine times since. The current definition was first used for the 1974 census.

**Land in farms** consists of agricultural land used for crops, pasture, or grazing. Also included is woodland and wasteland not actually under cultivation or used for pasture or grazing, provided it was part of the farm operator’s total operation. Land in farms includes acres in the Conservation Reserve, Wetlands Reserve Programs, or other government programs.

Land in farms includes land owned and operated as well as land rented from others. Land used rent free is included as land rented from others. All grazing land, except land used under government permits on a per-head basis, is included as land in farms provided it was part of a farm or ranch. Land under the exclusive use of a grazing association is reported by the grazing association and included as land in farms. All land in American Indian reservations used for growing crops or grazing livestock is included as land in farms. Land in reservations not reported by individual American Indians or non-Native Americans is reported in the name of the cooperative group that used the land. In many instances, the entire American Indian reservation is reported as one farm.

**Economic sales classes** are based on the gross value of agricultural products sold. Government program payments from the previous year are also included.

**Farm Definition History:** The definition of a farm has remained the same since 1974. Activities included as agriculture, however, have undergone modification in recent years. Beginning in 1995, operations having 5 or more horses or ponies and no other agricultural sales were counted as horse farms. An operation with 1 or more horses with agricultural sales of at least \$1,000, qualified as a farm. Two industries, maple syrup and short rotation woody crop farms, were added beginning in 1997 as a result of the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). These changes were made to achieve comparability with the Census of Agriculture farm definition. All the changes in the farm definition beginning in 1995 were carried back to 1993 and included in the 1993-1998 estimates. These changes bring comparability between the Census of Agriculture data and the annually published NASS estimates. Because of these changes in the farm definition, the official estimates show a level difference in the number of farms between 1992 and 1993 in some states. To further align the counting of farms with the Census of Agriculture, places with 100 acres or more of pasture only in 2002 were included in farm and land in farm numbers. The handling of Indian reservation land was changed in 2002 to provide some accounting for individual farms.

**Minimum Criteria for “FARM” Definition, 1840 - Present  
and Enumeration of Apiaries and Fur Farms**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Acres in Place</b>	<b>Value of Agricultural Products (Produced)</b>	<b>Value of Sales of Agricultural Products</b>	<b>Required some Agricultural Operations</b>	<b>Apiaries and Fur Farms Enumerated</b>
1974 - Present	--	--	\$1,000 or more	--	--
1959	Less than 10 10 or more	-- --	\$250 or more \$50 or more	-- --	-- --
1954	Less than 3 3 or more	-- \$150 or more	\$150 or more --	-- --	-- --
1950	Less than 3 3 or more	-- \$150 or more	\$150 or more --	-- --	Apiaries Fur Farms
1935 - 1945	Less than 3 3 or more	\$250 or more --	-- --	-- X	Apiaries Fur Farms
1930	Less than 3 3 or more	\$250 or more --	-- --	-- X	Apiaries --
1925	Less than 3 3 or more	\$250 or more --	-- --	-- X	-- --
1910 - 1925	Less than 3 3 or more	\$250 or more --	-- --	-- X	Apiaries --
1900	Less than 3 3 or more	-- --	-- --	-- X	Apiaries --
1870 - 1890	Less than 3 3 or more	-- --	\$500 or more --	-- X	Apiaries --
1860	--	--	--	--	--
1850	--	\$100 or more	--	--	Apiaries
1840	--	--	--	--	--

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The next "*Farms and Land in Farms*" report will be released February 2005.

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